

"Engaging the disinterested to walk in the HOPE of Jesus"

Jumping Off the Merry-Go-Round

When I was a kid, I would often play on the merry-go-round at Greenaway Park, just down the street from my house and my school. There were multiple joys and goals to pursue while my friends and I played on the merry-go-round. First and foremost, was the need to hang on for dear life while others, who were not actually riding on it at the time, would spin it faster and faster to see who could best endure the ensuing dizziness.



But for the bravest among us, the great challenge and feat was to successfully jump off *while* it was spinning. The risk for injury was significant, but we knew it would be worth it.

In far too many ways, our lives are very much like playing on a merry-go-round. As we add more and more activities and events that consume our limited time and energy, it's as if our professional and personal lives are spinning faster than ever before. Inevitably, the dizziness of exhaustion, resentment, and frustration follow closely behind. We find ourselves with a deep and growing desire to jump off the merry-go-round, but we are fairly sure that it's impossible, at least without serious injury to our ego, our relationships, or maybe even our job security. And yet, jump we must - it's the only way toward the wholeness God wants for us.

As we head into summer, I am reminded that even God rested on the seventh day of the week after working for six days creating the world. Since we are made "in His image/likeness," He asks us to also REST - to periodically JUMP OFF - and do absolutely nothing. In Matthew 11:28, Jesus invites us to jump: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Will you risk jumping off the merry-go-round this summer?

I encourage you to carve out some "off" time, some "do nothing" time this summer - a little bit each day, each week and hopefully a longer period of several days or weeks of rest. Discipline yourself to rest even from the *thought* of work in those times - no emails, no voicemails, no yard work, no house work, no running all over the place thinking you're enjoying yourself - just rest. Some possibilities might include taking a nap, sipping some good coffee while gazing at the waters of Puget Sound or some other body of water, enjoying a leisurely walk, spending time with a good friend, visiting a family member you haven't seen in a long time, gathering several friends for dinner, smelling the flowers you planted or the ones down the street. I also encourage you to take time to rest in God's Word - make reading the Bible a daily part of your rest this summer. If you don't know where to start, consider a guided reading plan from the *YouVersion Bible App* or at bible.com where they have Bible reading plans available on many different topics ranging from two to three days or up to several weeks or even a whole year. Invite the Holy Spirit to speak to you deep in your heart and grow in you the courage to jump off the merry-go-round more often, throughout the year, so that you can receive more of the rest God wants for you.

I also invite you to pray for some of the following things that are going on at Hope this summer: we are in the process of looking for, interviewing and hiring several school staff; we are planning to formalize our usher ministry and expand our Sunday morning welcoming strategy; preparing youth to serve on a mission trip in Buffalo, New York; and getting ready for over 200 children to participate in Vacation Bible School to be engaged with the love of Jesus. In addition, we are already looking toward the fall season and making preparations for life-changing Men's and Women's retreats; renewing our linkHOPE small groups; and recruiting leaders and team members for many different areas of service at Hope. Thank-you so much for your prayers and financial support of our Hope ministry. I invite and encourage you to continue to pray and give regularly so that together we may continue to effectively pursue our mission of engaging the disinterested to walk in the Hope of Jesus!

In His Strength and Peace,
Pastor Peter

Hope 2016 Fall Retreats

4th Annual Men's Retreat
Tall Timber Ranch, Lake Wenatchee
Friday October 21—Sunday October 23



Take one weekend and come to the mountains for breathtaking views, great adventures, friendships old and new, great life-changing messages of insight and encouragement, and tons of food! Invite a friend and join in the adventure!

Annual Women's Retreat

***"A New Perspective:
Living a Joy-filled Life!"***

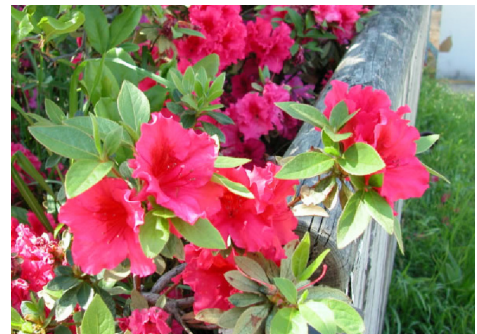
**Pilgrim Firs Conference Center
Port Orchard
Friday, September 30 - Sunday, October 2.**
(See page 6 for more details!)



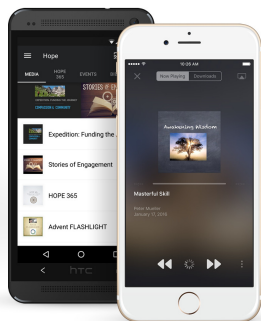
Eve Garden and Bible Study Group

AN INVITATION -

Eve Garden & Bible Study women's group invites you to join them for monthly Bible Study. They meet in homes of the happy gardeners, using the LWML Quarterly Bible study lessons. The Eve group helps to weed the flower beds at Hope. For more information, contact Irene Gehring, 206-937-9180. You will be doubly blessed - through study of God's Word with other "Eves" and through working in HIS gardens here at Hope.



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- **Full text of the Bible**
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Hope School News



Hope School Graduation Celebrations

8th Grade Graduation Celebration

Friday, June 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Reception to follow in the Commons

The class chose Exodus 14:14 for their Bible verse -

"The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still."

Preschool 4's and Kindergarten Graduation Celebration

Thursday, June 9

A.M. 4's - 10:45 a.m.

P.M. 4's - 1:00 p.m.

Kindergarten 2:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to join in the celebration as these young people reach a milestone in their life.

These very special events will be held in the Sanctuary.

Congratulations to all our graduates and we wish you God's Blessings!

School Summer Activities

Join us in West Seattle's Grand Parade on

Saturday, July 23! We will be driving our new school bus and need parent volunteers along with your kids to walk and ride in the parade. Church and school families welcome! Call the school office if you can join us 206-935-8500.



Outdoor Movies on the Wall – Hope will again host a summer movie night this year at Hot Wire. We are sponsoring *Star Wars*, *The Force Awakens*, on Saturday, July 16! Check dates and movie selections at: <http://westseattlemovies.blogspot.com/>.



Friends of Literacy Annual Meeting - June 20, 7:00 p.m.

MEXICO MISSION - Friends of Literacy

Things are NOT great in Mexico! Having said that, it is important for you to know that some things in Mexico ARE going great! What is not good is the violence, poverty, fear, crop failure for years, hunger, and continuing drug-related activities, including murders, along with many other sad, painful and downright horrible situations.

On June 20th, 7:00 PM, you are invited to come to the Fellowship Hall for some GOOD NEWS about Mexico, the work of Friends of Literacy, and Pastor Kaare Hagen's continuing teaching, preaching and outreach activities in the San Juanito, Chihuahua area.

If you have not attended a FOL meeting in the past, please be encouraged to come, be informed, and consider getting on board with other people of Hope who are dedicated to bringing hope to the people of Mexico, making their lives better, and, most of all, bringing hope in the Lord for those who presently have no hope. New attendees, we guarantee that you will be blessed through your attendance and your presence will be an encouragement to Pastor Hagen who has served for many years in this most difficult ministry.

To those who have attended in the past, consider bringing someone who is unfamiliar with FOL. You will be blessed and so will they.

Questions? Please contact FOL Board Chair - Larry Koltz; Board members: Bud Reynolds, Eda Keith, Paul Zankich, Dave and Irene Gehring.

Member Updates

BAPTISM:

We welcome into the family of God through baptism, the daughter of Lester and Maria Payton, baptized on April 24, 2016.

WEDDING:

God's blessings to *Robert Carter, Jr. and Katherine Begalke* on their marriage. Their wedding ceremony took place in April at Hope Lutheran Church.

NEW MEMBERS & TRANSFERS:

We welcome new members on Sunday, June 26.

TRANSFER:

Jason & Tiffany Behmer transferred by request to West Side Presbyterian Church.

ADDRESS/PHONE/EMAIL CHANGES:

(REQUEST UPDATES FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE)

Dell & Barbara Feilberg, phone/address

Helga Caldwell, cell phone

Pam Johnson, email

Paul Brott, home phone

Owen Winter, email

Karen Wright, cell phone (no home number)

Thank You from the Derricks, Lutheran Bible Translators

Dear Hope Seattle,

Thank you again and always for all your support of our mission work with Lutheran Bible Translators! We had a wonderful visit back in March and look forward to seeing you again!

In HIS Service,

Elliot & Serena Derricks

Lutheran Bible Translators Missionary

<http://us.lbt.org/project/elliott-serena-derricks/>



The Lutheran Witness Magazine



THE LUTHERAN WITNESS

Subscription renewals or cancellations are due **June 19**. A \$15.96 check, made out to Hope Lutheran Church (earmarked *Lutheran Witness*), will renew the magazine for another year. If you want to cancel, please email the church office, at smistry@hopeseattle.org, or call the office at 206-937-9330. Thank you.

Partnering with Parents so our children will KNOW, LOVE, and SERVE Jesus.

Annual Outdoor Worship & All-Church Picnic SUNDAY, JULY 24, 11:00 A.M. AT LINCOLN PARK



Join us for Contemporary Worship in the park at 11:00 a.m. held at the south end of the park near the zipline (in the shade!). BBQ hamburgers and hotdogs with all the trimmings, drinks and tableware will be provided. Please bring desserts and salads to share. For your comfort - bring a chair or blanket to sit on. The closest parking lot is the one nearest the Ferry Terminal. Our shelter site, which includes tables with bench seating, is just a short walk on a paved path from that parking lot.

Please note - there will be a Traditional Service at Hope Church at 8:00 a.m. (no service at the church at 10:30 a.m.). If you worship at the 8:00 a.m. service, please come to Lincoln Park around 12 noon for a great time and delicious food! Join the fun!

Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic!

VBS is coming July 18-22, 9:00-Noon!

At Cave Quest Vacation Bible School, we will embark on a hike through the caves each day guided by the light of Jesus! Our leaders reinforce one simple Bible truth through songs, dramas, games, snacks and more so all of us can remember what we have learned and apply it to real life! Bible points and stories we will be studying:

Day One - Bible Point: Jesus Gives us Hope
John 1:1-18, Isaiah 9:2 - Prophets foretell the Light of the World.

Day Two - Bible Point: Jesus Gives us Courage
Matthew 14:22-46 - Jesus and Peter walk on water.

Day Three - Bible Point: Jesus Gives us Direction
Matthew chapters 5-7 - Jesus sheds light on how to live.

Day Four - Jesus Gives us Love
Luke 23:1-24:12 - Jesus dies and comes back to life.

Day Five - Jesus Gives us His Power
Acts 1:1-11 - Jesus ascends and empowers his followers

It's not too late to join the fun! Volunteers are always needed. Contact patramueller@hopeseattle.org or call the church office at 206-937-9330.



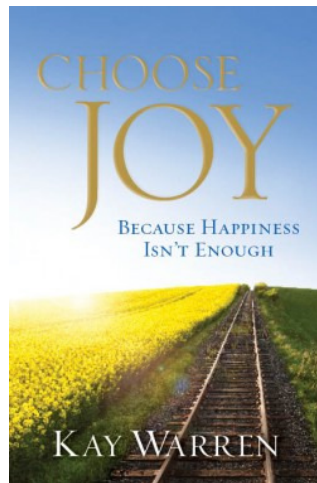
Annual Hope Women's Retreat at Pilgrim Firs in Port Orchard

"A New Perspective: Living a Joy-filled Life!"

"The Joy of the Lord is my strength." Nehemiah 8:10

Join us for a weekend away at Pilgrim Firs in Port Orchard where we will discover how to live the joy-filled life even in the midst of life's struggles with our speaker: **Holley Clough.**

Special times to connect with friends while doing crafts, group exercise, book club and much more! Purchase your book, ***Choose Joy because Happiness isn't Enough*** by Kay Warren for the book club in the church office or the Kindle version online. Cost is \$10.00.



**Retreat registration forms are available in the Commons.
Early Bird special until August 28!**

"Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice." Philippians 4:4



Hope *LifeMarks* Assessment Online

How do you know you're growing in your walking with Jesus? By evaluating the degree to which your life is increasingly Jesus-centered. What does that look like? At Hope, we describe what we think are the three most important aspects of a life of walking in the Hope of Jesus:

ELEVATION: Jesus-delivered Perspective

We believe that when you come to walk in the Hope of Jesus, life is like the view from the top of a mountain: everything looks differently as Jesus changes your perspective of yourself, others, your world, and God.

Core Concepts: TRUST, THINK, ACT, AIM

CONNECTION: Jesus-centered Friendship

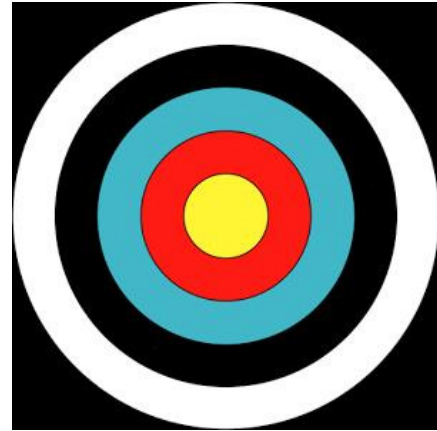
Life change happens best in circles, not rows. What we mean by that is that no matter how helpful a weekend worship gathering is, deep life change often happens best in the context of face to face relationships with others walking in the Hope of Jesus. Our dream is that over time, everyone involved with Hope would develop deep friendships with a few others to risk knowing and being known. We trust that God wants to bring deep restoration to our lives in this way.

Core Concepts: RELATE, RISK, RESTORE, LOVE

EXPEDITION: Jesus-motivated Purpose

Walking in the Hope of Jesus involves being invited and called into an adventure of serving Jesus and people with everything we are. We love because we are loved. There are unlimited physical and spiritual needs across the street and around the world - our passion is to follow Jesus in meeting the specific needs He calls us to—as individuals and as a community.

Core Concepts: UNDERSTAND, RESPOND, SPEAK, INVEST



Hope *LifeMarks*

This assessment will give you a snapshot on which of these areas you are strong in and where there is room to grow, as well as suggested resources to help you in your spiritual journey!

Take the brand new *LifeMarks* Assessment online TODAY at lifemarks.hopeseattle.org at home, on your phone, or contact the church office at 206-937-9330, if you don't have access to a computer.

God Is Active, Let's Be Still

Jonathan Kopecky, Youth Minister, jonathan@hopeseattle.org.

Are you able to take a breath now that school is winding down?

Are you finding that your calendar actually has empty days? Maybe not. We seem to always have something occupying our time. When one "season" comes to a close the next one begins. Nonetheless, we need to be intentional and carve out time to be still before God.

From the screams at track events, to the cheers at basketball games, to the bad notes with music practice, the distractions become noise that lead us to be numb towards God's voice. All we hear is the next thing that's pulling at us, rather than what God is saying to us.

Take a deep breath and ask God to refresh you. Ask him to let you see his Joy in your life. Ask him to turn the noise of your life into a composed medley designed specifically for you.

Our God desires an intimate relationship with you. Let this shift, into summer, be a spring board for a deeper friendship in Jesus. Let the sun's rays remind you of God's warmth and continually remind you that he leads us away from dark cold days into bright sunshine with renewed Hope.

Paul reminds us that we are more than conquerors through him who loves us. He is convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Summary of Romans 8:37-39

We cannot and will not be separated from God's love. Satan doesn't win this battle.

Timothy encourages young people in chapter 4 verse 12 to be leaders for the older generations. Adults and parents are examples to the young; however, with Jesus there is a paradox, that God uses the weak to confound the strong. He uses children to minister to the wise and learned, the seasoned, the adults.

YouTube: I am second - Baliee Madison, for a reminder that God's spirit rests in children. This will give you hope that nothing can separate us from God's love. God is active, breathing, and alive.

Blessings,

Jonathan



Human Care Ministry Happenings

HOUSE OF HOPE - PROVIDING SHELTER FOR FAMILIES, TUESDAY, 8/ 2 - TUESDAY, 8/16.



Company's coming! Our church home will be "home" to six families from Mary's Place, each day from 6 p.m. - 6 a.m. during this two week period.

You are invited to be God's hands & heart to provide love for these families. You can help by:

- preparing a meal (for 14)
- baking treats such as muffins, cookies
- giving food supplies or \$\$ for HCM to buy
- playing with kids
- rocking a baby
- sleeping overnight (in the Youth Room)
- and various other things

Your entire family can participate, or partner with a friend. This is also a fun way to "meet & greet" with other Hope members! But the most rewarding, fun part is getting to know these delightful moms and kids and being part of God's love. Sign-up in the Commons or call Pam Johnson or Mary Anne deVry.

Home health care items - We have a large selection of items including wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, canes, commodes and bath seats. If you are in need of any of these items, please contact Elissa Sommer 206-909-0159 or the church office.

Food Closet – Thanks for your on-going gifts of food! However, food is always needed. Any food is good, but really needed are: ready-to-eat food for homeless people who come to our church office. We appreciate cans that have pull off lids.

CITY SERVE EVENT-AUGUST 20



Hope is once again teaming up with 8 West Seattle Churches to have a "Serve Day." We will be working on projects at Sanislo Elementary, Roxhill Elementary, and Highland Park Elementary. Projects will include painting, landscaping, helping organize teacher classrooms and more! Join us in giving back to our community at these low income schools. Your whole family is welcome! Sign up in the Commons.

THANK YOU to everyone who so generously contributes goods to Human Care Ministries (HCM)!

A few gentle reminders:

- Please remember that we (or the organizations that we contribute to) do not have laundry facilities or the manpower to mend clothing.
- We cannot distribute food items that are past their expiration date.
- As a great help to our volunteers, please bring your clothing donations, laundered and ready to wear and take the time to check the expiration dates on food items. Thank you!

God asks us to help those in need. So, ask God to open your eyes and heart to see His people's needs...within our church, community, and beyond. If you know of a need or would like to help in HCM, contact Elissa Sommer at esommer@hopeseattle.org.

Financial Summary - April 2016

Please Note: Furnace upgrade is expected to impact these results significantly in June.

	Current Month	Year to Date	Budget	Favorable (Unfavorable) Variance
Offerings	\$ 38,348	\$ 565,260	\$ 549,927	\$ 15,333
School Income	118,034	1,170,931	1,104,433	66,498
Interest & Other	1,094	10,273	9,417	857
Total Income	157,476	1,746,464	1,663,777	82,687
Personnel Expense	124,369	1,215,968	1,224,767	8,799
Supplies Expense	14,337	151,169	150,359	(810)
Facilities Expenditures	9,420	92,420	128,967	36,547
Debt Service	17,694	176,940	176,942	1
Missions	1,125	4,500	3,750	(750)
Total Expense	166,945	1,640,997	1,684,784	43,786
Operating Surplus	(9,470)	105,467	(21,007)	126,474

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To shop at AmazonSmile, simply click here (smile.amazon.com), then select Hope Lutheran Church & School - West Seattle when prompted. Hope Church & School operates under a combined budget; Smile dollars received will be recorded in a joint line item in the operating budget. Thank you for your support!

June 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Greeters: 8:00 Bruce Carlson 10:30 Shari Wallace & Diane Mebust	Chancel Guild: Jennifer Ancona Dianne Koltz		1 7pm Rüt (y/fr) 7pm Choir (s)	2 7pm Music Team (s)	3 Church Office Closed 10:30 Bible Study (fr)	4 8am School Eagle Classic Golf 11am Priscilla Luncheon(c)
5 12pm Congregational Assembly 8pm oFOUR2 HS (y)	6 7pm Celebrate Recovery (f)	7	8 7pm Rüt (y/fr) 7pm SLHS Agape Service (s) 7pm Eve Bible Study	9 7pm Music Team (s)	10 Last Day of School Church Office Closed 10:30 Bible Study (fr) 7pm Hope School 8th Grade Graduation	11
12 Last Sunday School 8pm oFOUR2 HS (y)	13 7pm Celebrate Recovery (f)	14	15 7pm Rüt (y/fr)	16 7pm Music Team (s)	17 Church Office Closed 10:30 Bible Study (fr)	18
19 8pm oFOUR2 HS (y)	20 11am Saints & Shut-Ins 7pm FOL Annual Mtg (f) 7pm Celebrate Recovery (c)	21	22 7pm Rüt (y/fr)	23 7pm Music Team (s)	24 Church Office Closed 10:30 Bible Study (fr)	25 4pm Saint's Ring of Honor SLHS: <i>Bob Christian</i>
26 10:30: New Members 2 pm Calvary Lutheran Retirement Celebration 8pm oFOUR2 HS (y)	27 7pm Celebrate Recovery (f)	28	29 7pm Rüt (y/fr)	30 7pm Music Team (s)	Notes:	

July 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Greeters: 8:00 Len & Lill Pedde 10:30 Sylvia Baxter & Helga Caldwell	Chancel Guild: Sylvia Baxter Darlene Roberts Pam Johnson Carolyn Brugge				1 Church Office Closed 10:30 Bible Study (fr)	2
3	4 4th of July Holiday Church Office Closed 7pm Celebrate Recovery (f)	5 <i>Articles Due Today:</i> Quarterly Newsletter (Aug/Sept/Oct)	6 7pm Rüt (y/fr)	7 7pm Music Team (s)	8 Church Office Closed 10:30 Bible Study (fr)	9
10 <div>W.S. Summer Fest</div>	11 7pm Celebrate Recovery (f)	12	13	14 7pm Music Team (s)	15 Church Office Closed 10:30 Bible Study (fr)	16 Outdoor Movie: at Hot Wire
Youth Mission Trip to Buffalo, NY 7/10 - 7/17						
17	18 7pm Celebrate Recovery (f)	19	20 7pm Rüt (y/fr)	21 7pm Music Team (s)	22 Church Office Closed 10:30 Bible Study (fr)	23 11am W.S. Grand Parade
Youth Mission trip	Vacation Bible School - Cave Quest: 9 a.m. - 12 noon					
24 8am Traditional Service at Hope 11am Outdoor Service & Annual Picnic, Lincoln Park 8pm oFOUR2 HS (y)	25 7pm Celebrate Recovery (f)	26	27 7pm Rüt (y/fr)	28 7pm Music Team (s)	29 Church Office Closed 10:30 Bible Study (fr)	30
31 8pm oFOUR2 HS (y)	Note: House of Hope: Mary's Place Providing Shelter Tuesday 8/2 - Tuesday 8/16, Fellowship Hall		Calendar code: () = Commons/Narthex fr = Fireside Room y = Youth Room c = Commons/Narthex l = Library s = Sanctuary sc = School Classroom v = View Room f = Fellowship Hall n = Nursery blank = off site			



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Jonathan Kopecky, Youth Minister jkopecky@hopeseattle.org
Amy Kopecky, Dir. of Music Ministry akopecky@hopeseattle.org
Elissa Sommer, Human Care Ministry esommer@hopeseattle.org
Dan Jackson, Deacon djackson@hopeseattle.org
Patrice Wolanin, Secretary church@hopeseattle.org

Sunday Schedule:

8:00 am Traditional Worship
9:30 am Education & Sunday School Hour
10:30 am Contemporary Worship

Phone: 206-937-9330
www.hopeseattle.org
E-mail: church@hopeseattle.org

Hope's Annual Outdoor Worship & All Church Picnic Sunday, July 24, Lincoln Park



Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic!

- Contemporary Service, 11:00 a.m. at Lincoln Park, followed by Picnic.
- Traditional Service, 8:00 a.m. at Hope Church.
- If you worship at 8:00, please come to Lincoln Park around 12 noon.
- Join the Fun!

(See page 5 for more information.)